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REMARKS

Thorough examination of the application is sincerely appreciated.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1 – 3, 7, 9 – 11, 15, 17, 18, 23 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,466,624 (Fogg). Claim 19 was rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Fogg in view of U.S. Patent 6,810,082 (Shen).

Further to the Final Office Action, it was stated that claims 4 – 6, 8, 12 – 14, 16, 20 – 22 and 24 contained allowable subject matter and “appeared allowable over the prior art.”

To expedite the prosecution of the application and without conceding any statements or waiving any arguments in the Final Office Action, Applicant’s claims are amended as follows:

Independent claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 8. It is believed that independent claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.

Claim 2 is allowable by virtue of its dependency from claim 1.

Claim 3 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 4. It is believed that independent claim 3 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 5 – 7 are allowable by virtue of their dependency, directly or indirectly, from claim 3.

Claim 9 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 16. It is believed that independent claim 9 is now in condition for allowance.

Claim 10 is allowable by virtue of its dependency from claim 9.

Claim 11 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 12. It is believed that independent claim 11 is now in condition for allowance.

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Claims 13 – 15 are allowable by virtue of their dependency, directly or indirectly, from claim 11.

Independent claim 17 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 24. It is believed that independent claim 17 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 18 and 25 are allowable by virtue of their dependency from claim 17.

Claim 19 is amended to include the subject matter of claim 20. It is believed that independent claim 19 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 21 – 23 are allowable by virtue of their dependency, directly or indirectly, from claim 19.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that Fogg and Shen, either alone or in combination, do not anticipate or render obvious the present invention because the combination fails to teach or suggest all of the features of Applicant's claims, as discussed hereinabove. Withdrawal of the rejections is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. It is believed that this amendment will place the application in condition for allowance and, therefore, its entry is warranted per MPEP 706.07(e).


An earnest effort has been made to be fully responsive to the Examiner's correspondence and advance the prosecution of this case. In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is earnestly solicited. However, if for any reason this application is not considered to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

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Please charge any additional fees associated with this application to Deposit Account No.

14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

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